

REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the final Office Action dated October 28, 2005, is believed to be fully responsive to the points of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, entry of the Amendment and favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 6-10 and 16-20 are pending. Claim 1 is cancelled above. Claims 6, 8, 10, 16, 19 and 20 are amended above. No new matter has been added by the amendments.

Claims 1, 8-10 and 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over US Patent No. 2,982,495 (Griffith), in view of US patent No. 6,637,187 (Sanders). The Examiner indicated that Claims 6, 7 and 16-18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants respectfully submit the following remarks in support of the patentability of the claims.

1. Claims 6-10, 19 and 20:

Applicants maintain their earlier position regarding the patentability of the claims for all of the reasons presented in Applicants' earlier response. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have cancelled Claim 1 and amended Claims 8-10, 19 and 20 to depend from Claim 6.

The Examiner indicated that Claims 6 and 7 contain allowable subject matter. Claim 6 was previously rewritten in independent form and is amended above to remove a comma. Claim 7 depends from Claim 6. Claims 8, 9, 10, 19 and 20 are amended above to depend from Claim 6. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 6-10, 19 and 20 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the rejections of Claims 8-10, 19 and 20 be withdrawn.

2. Claims 16-18:

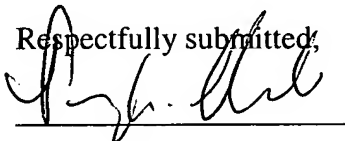
The Examiner indicated that Claims 16-18 contain allowable subject matter. Claim 16 is rewritten above in independent form. Claims 17 and 18 depend from Claim 16. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 16-18 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Please charge all applicable fees associated with the submittal of this Response and any other fees applicable to this application to the Assignee's Deposit Account No. 07-0868.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,


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